

CATALYTIC SYSTEM FOR ALDOL REACTIONS

Abstract

5 The invention relates to a process for the preparation, in a single step, of enones by an aldol condensation of a ketone, such as a gem-dimethyl cyclohexylethanone or gem-dimethyl cyclohexenylethanone derivative, with an aldehyde in the presence of a novel catalytic system and a co-ingredient, such as a carboxylic acid anhydride or an anhydrous salt, and without the pre-formation of an enolate. The catalytic system is a metal complex,
10 such as a $[(Cl)_n(alkoxy)_{4-n}Ti]$ or $[(Cl)_n(alkoxy)_{4-n}Zr]$ complex where n is 1 to 3.